



Oregon Soccer Club Board Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2014, 7:30 pm
RCI D101 Community Conference Room

Board Members Present: Lee Christensen, Ranae Krull, Corrie Bjerke, Kraig Krause, Mike Bjerke, Mark Bennett, Steve Havancik, Pete McCombs, and Eric Anderson

Board Members Absent: Jon Odorico, Lynn Roemer, and Bob Tolly

Non-Voting Officers Present: Bryan Gruchow

	Standing Items
1.	Review and Approve – Prior Board Meeting Minutes (All) Minutes were approved with no changes.
2.	Presidents Report (Lee) Lee shared that the school board approved the \$500,000 improvement to Jaycee Park East. Work will begin this fall. With the redevelopment approval, the club can move forward with consideration to a donation to the project. Due to the redevelopment of Jaycee Park East, the high school soccer teams and any other other high school sports that now use that area will need to find a new place to practice. It is plausible that Jaycee Park (west of Perry Pkwy) will be used by the high school teams or the fields behind PVE and NKE. This probable shift in fields will displace our some of our club teams during the redevelopment phase for fall 2014, spring 2015 and possibly fall 2015. This displacement will require our club to find other green space for additional fields. Brooklyn Elementary was suggested again as an alternative site. It has a large green space that could be used for fields but the space may need some improvements to be safe to use for practices and games. Other sites and parks will be reviewed for possible space. Lee will touch base with the school district to find out the scope of the foreseeable field shifts and see if they have ideas on how to resolve the displacement issues. Kwik Trip Fundraising Program - Lee requested 2 new options be added to the dropdown when purchasing Kwik Trip gas cards, scholarship or general donation. Adding these new options will allow any person whether a member or not to purchase the gas cards to fundraise for the club. The purchaser can select if they would like to allocate the funds raised from their purchase to be earmarked specifically to benefit players needing scholarships due to financial need.



<p>3.</p>	<p>Financial Report (Corrie) No update.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>DOYD Update (Danny) Danny was absent.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>U11 & up Classic Commissioner Update (Kraig & Mike)</p> <p>Kraig provided an update on club contract negotiations with Challenger. Challenger offered our club a three year contract with cost savings. Based on this contract, the club will save each money each year and a fair amount over the three year period. Motion for signing the agreement passed unanimously.</p> <p>Terry from BC asked whether we will need a coach over the summer for trainings. Board agreed to contract for one coach over summer, either Danny or Kevin.</p> <p>Kraig shared that the tryout schedule will be out around the first week of March. Kraig is working on a way to streamline the tryout registration process. One of the improvements that he is testing is using paypal to accept payments online.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>U9 – U14 Academy / Rec Commissioners Update (Bob & Mark)</p> <p>Mark asked about whether the club would be interested in providing each team with a quality game ball. In the past years, coaches were given a bag with cones, ball, pennies, etc. Before purchasing new equipment, the green shed will be checked to see what is already available.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>U7 – U8 Commissioners Update (Pete & Steve)</p> <p>Pete spoke to the Verona club to find solutions to scheduling difficulties that occurred this past fall. Currently Verona creates a pool of players and then splits players into teams for games. This makes scheduling games extremely difficult and rescheduling games even worse. Pete feels that it would be beneficial for either our club or the Verona club to change how teams are setup for this age group to resolve this issue. The Verona club holds side-by-side practices versus individual team practices. They also involve the parents in the trainings. This pool style practice may be something we want to emulate in our club. Pete feels there are several benefits to the side-by-side trainings some of which are fewer coach volunteers needed and better scrimmage options at practice with more kids. Pete would like to discuss this further with the board at a future meeting. A decision will need to be made soon for possible implementation this fall.</p>



	<p>Steve discussed the issue of resolving the divergent skill issues at this age between the Verona club girls and the rest of the area girl teams. Steve will be contacting the equivalent commissioner for the U7/U8 girls and propose that they play up (U9).</p> <p>This age group is getting new registrations for spring. Will wait to form teams closer to the season start date to allow more players to register.</p> <p>Photo day will be April 27th. Rain date Sat May 10th.</p>
8.	<p>U4 – U6 Commissioners Update Little Rookies (Eric)</p> <p>Eric shared that new registrations are coming in for our Little Rookies program for spring.</p>
9.	<p>Fundraising Update (Andrea)</p> <p>No update. Andrea was absent.</p>
10.	<p>Referee Update (Bryan)</p> <p>Bryan shared that 25 – 30 participants are registered for the new referee course.</p>

	<p><u>New Business</u></p>
1.	<p>Challenger with Terry Gordon (Kraig)</p> <p>Challenger has served the Oregon Soccer Club for the past 7 years. Terry Gordon is Challenger’s Regional Director for our area. Terry oversees all the regional areas and specifically the Wisconsin area. Terry shared his personal background as related to soccer. He has worked for Challenger the past five years. He played semi professional soccer for a few years. He has coached soccer for 10 years as well. As Challenger Regional Director, Terry likes to meet with Challenger’s club clients to discuss club needs and offer suggestions and services. Wisconsin is Challenger’s largest client base with about 25 trainers placed in positions in Wisconsin. Summer camps are the biggest percentage of Challenger’s business. Terry would like to grow the training portion of Challenger’s business.</p> <p>Terry shared insights and observations with the board related to his experience working as Challenger’s Regional Director. He also shared his advice and opinions on player development. Terry offered to work more closely with OSC in his role as regional director and encouraged our club to use him to communicate the club’s vision and direction to the BC coaches. To fulfill this managerial role, Terry requested that our club create a plan of our club’s coaching and player development philosophies. Our club has</p>



retained our coaches much longer than the average club with Challenger but the reality is, each of our coaches will eventually make career changes or life decisions that will cause each coach to move on. Terry is advocating creating a plan or club philosophy to follow so that if we lose coaches we don't lose the plan or particular coaching philosophy that has been successful for our club. Terry shared that in general, our club has operated more independent from Challenger than the normal Challenger clients. He feels this is because our coaches have done a good job of managing things independently. While that is good, Terry feels our club is missing out on guidance that Challenger can provide since the backbone of Challenger has been left out. He has tools that can help our club. He is willing to provide guidance from Challenger to our coaches as directed by our club's direction and vision. Terry feels he can provide an independent view since he doesn't have any personal connection to players or parents. He also feels his knowledge and experience of working with many clubs allows him to see the bigger picture.

Terry shared his thoughts on player development. He feels professional development should be available at recreational levels from a young age. He is a strong believer in youth development. He encourages clubs to create an engaging environment for kids and to provide guidance to the parent coach volunteers. He believes clubs should encourage kids to have fun and to continue in soccer. Terry advocated adding more training to our club's plan. He suggested adding Challenger trainings and help for volunteer parent coaches to improve development in the rec area.

As regional director, Terry offered to help us implement our plan by working more closely with our club board, provide club directed guidance to the coaches, and offer additional training options for player development.

2. Volunteer Requirement Discussion for 2014-2015 Season (Ranae)

There was not time to discuss this. The idea of requiring volunteer hours for club members has been discussed at past meetings. The concern for this change is rooted in the fact that each year a relatively small number of members are shouldering excessive areas of responsibility and volunteering numerous hours leading to some volunteer burnout and dropout in key positions. The main area of concern is the tournament. Perhaps if club members were required to volunteer, the workload could be more evenly distributed among many volunteers. Many hands make light work philosophy. Ranae requested the board members to begin organizing their thoughts on whether our club will require volunteer hours for the 2014-2015 season. The decision on whether to require needs to be made in time to build this into the registration. Registration for 2014-2015 should not be opened until this decision has been made.



3.	Skills Challenge Review (Bryan) Bryan has volunteered to manage the Skills Challenge. He has about 700 pins. He would like the commissioners to track the awards for each child during the season. The information gathered could be useful for team placement in future seasons.
4.	Camp Scholarships (Corrie) Corrie asked if OSC sponsored soccer camp scholarships are available for players with financial need. Lee confirmed and volunteered to coordinate these. The camp scholarships are open to any child on free and reduced lunch.
5.	Director of Youth Development (Kraig) Kraig shared that Danny has requested to step down from the Director of Youth Development position. This position was given to Danny when he had two teams and the extra time to devote to the role of this position. Now that Danny has three teams, he does not feel that he has the time to adequately fulfill the responsibilities of the Director of Youth Development. The board agreed to accept Danny's request to step down as the Director of Youth Development. Danny will continue to coach and offer trainings.